

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON SOLID WASTE ACTIVITIES

March 29, 2007

6:00 PM

Chairman Roy called the meeting to order.

The Clerk called the roll.

Present: Aldermen Roy, Lopez, Osborne, O'Neil, Forest

Messrs.: Kevin Sheppard, Joanne McLaughlin, Karen DeFrancis

Deputy City Clerk Matthew Normand stated the Clerk would just note that we did receive the package that I think was sent to the Committee this afternoon. It's a report from the School District which was brought up at the last meeting, and it was requested that they report back at the next meeting. I have copies here if anyone needs one, and it was sent by a courier today.

Chairman Roy stated I did just receive my copy, so if we'd like to take two or three minutes...if we can get Alderman O'Neil a copy. I'd like to take two or three minutes to read the School District letter. I appreciate them putting this together and being here to answer any questions that the Aldermen may have.

Chairman Roy stated if we could, at the request of Alderman Lopez, if Deputy Director Sheppard and Joanne McLaughlin, Recycling Coordinator, could come to the microphone and we're probably safe if, Karen, you take a microphone as well. I'd also like to welcome to the room the new Finance Director. A couple of years ago we would have been calling you up to sit in the hot seat. So, welcome and we look forward to working with you.

Alderman Lopez stated I just noticed something here. I just want clarification. First of all, I think the School Department is doing a pretty good job, in comparison to the prices they had before. Joanne, ink cartridges and computers. Do you have a copy of the report?

Ms. Joanne McLaughlin, Recycling Superintendent, stated I don't have it with me.

Alderman Lopez asked do we have separate day that we pick up ink cartridges and a separate day that we pick up computers?

Ms. McLaughlin stated we do not pick up ink cartridges. That's something that's done at each school, and I believe they raise money doing that.

Alderman Lopez stated yes they do. And I was wondering why we wouldn't do that.

Ms. McLaughlin stated when you say we, sir...

Alderman Lopez stated the City.

Ms. McLaughlin stated that's something that we just haven't started yet. That's certainly something that we could do.

Alderman Lopez stated I think it would be worth it if you'd work with the school and see how to do it. And the computers, I know we don't have special days we pick up computers. Did you go over that? Are the computers going to have to go out to...

Ms. McLaughlin stated the drop off facility. That's right. Currently we do collect television sets, if they are small, tabletop models that can be thrown in the packer with trash. And if they're large console TV's, we do pick them up with our bulky truck. Beginning July 1st of this year, there will be a landfill ban. The State has banned all computer monitors and televisions from the landfill. And that is why we're coming to you with this program, because we won't be able to pick them up anymore. They won't be able to be landfilled. But we have had a program going for the last three years at the drop off facility. We've had an electronics collection program and we've been very successful with that. We probably collect 5,000 pounds a month. And we have been collecting it at a fee of seven and a half cents a pound. Even though people can throw them out, we've had a number of people who would prefer not to put them in landfills and who do come and pay the associated fee.

Alderman Lopez stated okay, so we'll look at the ink cartridges and proceed with that. I think it's good.

Ms. McLaughlin stated we could look at developing some kind of program – see what the need is, what the inventory would be, and then where we could send them for reclamation.

Alderman Osborne stated well I just had a question for Joanne or Mr. Sheppard, one or the other. We pick up the televisions and so on and so forth. If we can throw it into the dump truck we'll do it right now, right?

Mr. Kevin Sheppard, Deputy Director of Public Works, stated we can throw it in our packet right now or the bulky truck. Correct.

Alderman Osborne stated now if somebody wanted to take them up to the landfill instead by their car or whatever, they're being charged for doing that?

Mr. Sheppard stated currently there's a fee because anything that goes...there is a fee curbside but that material, I'm not too sure if it goes directly to the drop off. When it goes to the drop off, there's a fee for the contractor to collect that stuff. That was the original intent of the drop off, to be self-sustaining. Hopefully, revenues would meet the cost of operating the facility. But I believe after the last meeting this Committee voted that, at the drop off, because of the CRT van, there will be no fee, because CRT means televisions and computer screens at the drop off. Whereas we won't be collecting curbside, people won't be allowed to put them curbside. We'd take them free at the drop off.

Alderman Osborne stated just off the base a little bit here. It just puzzles me sometimes in the fall when we pick up the leaves if they're properly and containered right, you know. But yet when somebody wants to take them up to the landfill, they're charged. Why do we do that?

Mr. Sheppard stated I was actually having that discussion with someone earlier today. At the drop off, again, we have to pay to remove that material at the drop off. When it's at the curbside we've got a lump sum contract with the contractor, Corcoran Environmental. We pay, whether there's one bag or fifty bags in front of the house, we pay the same price for the whole City. At the drop off, anything that's brought over there is over and above what's collected at the curb, so it costs the City money to dispose of the material at the drop off, but if it's at the curb, it's all part of that lump sum cost.

Alderman Osborne stated okay, I just had some questions from some people out there, that's all.

Alderman O'Neil stated question for Karen DeFrancis, if I may. Just seeing this letter right now, it indicates that your current contract is up the end of May.

Ms. Karen DeFrancis, School Department Business Administrator, stated that's correct.

Alderman O'Neil asked have there been any discussions with the City about the City providing that service?

Ms. DeFrancis responded actually I just had a discussion with Kevin Sheppard right before this meeting and we're going to get together and work on a RFP.

Alderman O'Neil stated the reason I ask is I do see, based on the financials, there appears to be a savings. But I've also heard complaints from individual schools over the years. I won't say it's regularly. For instance, if the contract truck shows up and somebody's parked in front of a dumpster, they just continue on their route and that dumpster stays filled. And there are other loose items that may not be taken care of by a contractor, so I would suggest that maybe have discussions with the City and see what they can do.

Ms. DeFrancis stated yes, we will do that.

Alderman Forest stated I received this about twenty minutes before I got here and I actually left my copy at home. But I was reading that some schools recycle, and the ones that are mentioned here, it's just a class project. Is there any program within the school system as far as doing this on a regular basis in all the schools?

Ms. DeFrancis stated well we do with paper and cardboard. That is at all of the schools. Under the cans and the bottles, that depends upon the school, and there has not been a program developed that requires each school to do it. Usually the student organizations or the individuals that collect the cans and the bottles, and they do it for fundraising purposes.

Alderman Forest asked would it be possible to have a discussion with the administration and all that to see if maybe we can get all the schools to recycle? I'm sure that's going to save you money and on your revenue or whatever it is, I'm sure that's going to save you money if all the schools recycle instead of throwing it in the garbage.

Ms. DeFrancis stated I'm sure it would. Right now the student organizations that are recycling, that money actually goes into the student activity fund. So it helps them with their organizations.

Alderman O'Neil stated this would be for Kevin or Joanne. Is there a policy on the City side regarding recycling at Departments?

Ms. McLaughlin stated I don't believe there's a policy set up, but we do recycle at all of the City offices.

Alderman O'Neil asked should there be a policy?

Mr. Sheppard responded our opinion, every ton or every pound that's recycled is one less pound that goes into the landfill.

Alderman O'Neil stated and the reason I ask that is you folks helped out a business that I was aware of with the TwoToter program, I think it is, small neighborhood business. And one of the conditions is that in order to participate in that program you must recycle. My understanding is there's going to be requests for additional bins and recycling because it's been very, very successful for them. So if that can be done I think it's something...I have seen in fire houses recycling bins and that, but maybe we need to develop a policy to...mandatory is a needed word, but strongly recommend recycling in all locations.

Mr. Sheppard stated we can bring something back to this Committee.

Chairman Roy stated once again I thank you, Karen, for putting that letter together and being available to us. The two things that I would look at is I would actually request that our City side contractor look at this very aggressively, not only for the product produced in the recycling, but the educational value of having their toters, their program in the schools, and the carryover that will take effect in the homes once the children are out of school – once they've seen the logo, seen the toters, seen the policies, and seen what it does not only for the environment but their parents' tax bill. I think it would be very important so thank you for working together.

Alderman O'Neil stated Mr. Chairman, I think that's a very good point because certainly the children can set adult behavior and I think if we can encourage it in the schools and get the young people to participate I think there will be a domino effect where it will start happening in the homes, so I think that's a very good point.

Chairman Roy stated with that, I don't think any action...of if the Clerk would like to correct me if any action is necessary. I think we are going forward with an RFP and the cooperation is greatly appreciated by this Committee. So, would anyone like to take...I think, Karen, you're released but Kevin and Joanne, I don't think you should go far. Would anyone like to take an item off of the table? The Chair would probably look for the CRT discussion to take place prior to the bulky waste, so we can clear that up. It should be a quicker discussion.

On motion of Alderman Osborne, duly seconded by Alderman Lopez, it was voted to take item 3 off the table, addressing section b) first and then section a).

3. Communication from Joanne McLaughlin, Recycling Superintendent, submitting recommendations for changes to two of its Solid Waste Programs as follows:
 - a) Bulky Pick-up Program; and
 - b) program options relating to the NH CRT landfill ban effective July 1, 2007.

(Tabled 03/13/2007)

Mr. Sheppard stated I believe maybe the only remaining item left on that was there was concern regarding senior citizens who have no money, that can't bring their stuff to the drop off. We've talked to Senior Services, Barbara Vigneault. They have what's called a Senior Counts Day twice a year in the spring and fall. What happens from what I understand during that is the seniors contact Senior Services with possibly raking of a yard or items that they have difficulty doing. And she was more than happy to say that we could collaborate and work with her if there are situations where there are seniors that have a computer screen or a TV in their home and they can't get it out or they can't get it to the drop off. We would work with her through those two days to work with those seniors.

Alderman Osborne stated I just want to say the seniors are happy and they really appreciate it. Thank you.

Mr. Sheppard stated Barbara was very gracious and she's more than willing to work with us on that.

Chairman Roy asked so what action or motion would you like to see from this Committee this evening?

Mr. Sheppard responded basically, accept our original...well, I'm not too sure we were looking for an action. Originally we were looking just to inform this Committee that as of July 1st we have no choice. You already did take the action that there will be no fee at the drop off, come July 1st this year. CRT's, we will be accepting those. Residents won't be able to put them to the curb, so tonight I don't believe there is any need...

Alderman Lopez asked would you want this Committee to sanction your recommendation here and the policies that you're going to follow?

Mr. Sheppard responded I believe, and maybe Mr. Normand can straighten that out, but I believe most of that had passed at the last Committee meeting. The only thing out there was the concern with senior citizens.

Alderman Lopez stated it passed at the last Committee meeting but everything was tabled, so I think we have to take it off the table and pass it so that you'll have it in writing that it's sanctioned by this Committee.

Alderman O'Neil asked Kevin, can you just run through what were the revisions made at the last meeting?

Ms. McLaughlin responded on the CRT program? We have not made any revisions. Our recommendation is that we take those materials at the drop off at no charge. We have an ongoing electronics program whereby everything that we send to them is recycled and de-manufactured.

Alderman O'Neil stated I pull up with a box truck full of units. How's that treated?

Ms. McLaughlin asked are you a private resident?

Alderman O'Neil responded yes, I rent a U-Haul. This goes back to the same issue Alderman Osborne was talking about of why we don't allow yard waste. Why we charge for yard waste is to control the commercial people from abusing the system. So I'm just curious about how that's going to be different with CRT's.

Mr. Sheppard stated obviously this is something that we're going to have to work out, but if we see someone abusing the system, we're going to have to work around that. The intent is for residential.

Alderman O'Neil asked should we put that in the policy? I don't know.

Mr. Sheppard responded it would not hurt to add that to it. It will help us with enforcement.

Alderman O'Neil stated I'll make that motion. Two, I think, would be more than enough.

Mr. Sheppard stated right. I don't think we're going to sit there and start counting, you know, if someone comes in once a month with a TV, but if we see them coming in with box trucks filled with computer monitors and TV's, then we'd have an issue. The intent here is to keep them, hopefully, off the streets and off the alleys, if we can do that.

Alderman Lopez stated I'll second that motion.

Alderman Osborne stated could we make that at least four?

Mr. Sheppard stated I don't think anyone set a limit as to how many people could bring in. I think it's if we see the commercial or we see someone that's abusing the system, we'll be able to enforce that.

Alderman O'Neil stated I was looking for a number, but I don't know who would be throwing out four computer screens at once other than some business.

Alderman Osborne stated it's just the idea to be on the safe side. You want to put a number on it or you just want to...

Mr. Sheppard stated my thought was if we said residential, I think we'd be able to tell the difference between a residential customer and a commercial customer. If we see the same truck coming in, or the same business coming in...

Alderman Osborne stated so we'll just leave it alone for now.

Mr. Sheppard stated I believe we'll be able to work that out.

Chairman Roy stated a motion is on the table to limit the number at two. I did accept that motion by Alderman O'Neil and Alderman Lopez. Personally I support there being some line in the sand. It makes it clear for everyone what is commercial, what is residential. Whether two is the right number or four is the right number, is entirely up to this Committee to recommend.

Alderman O'Neil stated my thought is two per day.

Chairman Roy stated if someone comes in repeatedly, it takes a lot of effort to drive to the station with two.

Mr. Sheppard stated okay, I misunderstood. I thought you were trying to say two or four per year.

Alderman Osborne stated yes, that's what I was thinking.

Alderman O'Neil stated we're trying to compromise here.

Alderman Osborne stated that's a good compromise.

Mr. Sheppard stated but I agree. If you say something like two per day, it gives us the ability...you know if someone really wants to drive back and forth then it's not convenient for them.

Alderman O'Neil stated but, I do respect if somebody has a computer screen and throwing out an old TV as well.

Mr. Sheppard stated obviously if we see that a resident's coming to the gate and he's got two computer screens and a TV, we're not going to turn him away. I mean, the policy is set at two, but we understand.

Alderman O'Neil stated I certainly was not suggesting per year.

Chairman Roy stated the thing that worries me is the surrounding towns are also going to be faced with this ban. The thing that scares me is there will be instances where surrounding towns have to abide by this ban as well. Local person says to his neighbors, Hey every Saturday come load up my truck. I'll bring them to Manchester. He goes and gets his friend with a Manchester ID and then they end up in our landfill or our transfer station.

Alderman O'Neil stated actually, Mr. Chairman, I wish I would have brought it with me but there was just a statistic put out by the Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission. I want to say six or seven, including Manchester, communities of the...maybe even more...of the thirteen in the region already have a program. It might even be ten of them already have a program, so I don't see that being an issue.

Alderman Lopez stated I'm not going two a day. I mean, I think maybe if Alderman O'Neil agrees to just keep it like this and see what happens. They can come back and make a policy, but getting two a day, I mean, how many households are going to have two a day unless they're working for some company?

Mr. Sheppard stated I believe the intent is that if we've got a truck that comes in with ten, we'd be able to turn them away; If I can speak for him, you're not going to see residents coming in with two a day.

Alderman Lopez stated we're anticipating a major problem and I don't think it's going to be a major problem. I think you have to work out the bugs first and then if you really have a problem, come back and make a stiff policy.

Alderman Osborne stated that's what we said. I think we should start with a little pilot program here, maybe for six months, see how it works and then take it off from there. We can always come back to Committee. The best way of looking at it, or a year or whatever you want to do.

Alderman O'Neil stated I recall days when the landfill closed and we had a heck of a time identifying commercial vehicles coming in. They'd have magnetic stickers for when they were out and about in the town and then when they're pulling up at the landfill they'd pull the magnetic signs off and now they're residential people, so it does happen and there are people who are going to con the system and make a buck at it, which should not be at our expense, in my opinion.

Chairman Roy stated I agree.

Alderman Lopez stated I'll withdraw my second if it's two a day.

Chairman Roy asked two a day versus zero a day?

Alderman Lopez responded I'd rather go with the policy that's here and let's work it out a little bit. But having residents throw two away a day, I don't see where they're going to get all those computers and screens. I didn't know it was two a day.

Alderman O'Neil stated that was to set a tone. I don't think there's going to be a problem with it, but at least it gives the Department something to work with. My motion stands, unless there's no second to it.

Chairman Roy stated so the first part of the collection program plan is, number one, take CRT's at drop off facility at no charge for residential customers. And the only change in that language would be up to two per day.

Chairman Osborne asked now how are we going to police this?

Ms. McLaughlin stated the gentlemen who work over there at the drop off facility are pretty sharp guys.

Chairman Osborne stated that guy should be double paid, I think, what he's going to keep track of. But anyway, he's going to keep track of all these different residents and so on, how many they've taken in in a year's time.

Ms. McLaughlin stated I'm just saying that they recognize people who come in. It's generally the same commercial people who come in over and over again. And if they come in, they need to show their ID, that they're a resident – photo ID.

Alderman O'Neil stated I would defend, having brought items over there many times in the back of my pickup truck from my home, the scale operators are pretty observant; they know what to charge you for. Recycling is not charged if it's part of the mix and it's a pretty efficient system over there.

Chairman Roy stated I fully agree. We do have some very good professionals working there.

Alderman Lopez stated just to get to the clarifications. Maybe I missed something, since you whispered in my ear there. You're actually saying that a residential could bring televisions and monitors, two every day, every day of the year, every workday. Is that what your motion is?

Alderman O'Neil stated yes.

Alderman Lopez stated where's he going to get all that? What is the purpose? I've got to understand the purpose of this.

Alderman O'Neil stated the purpose is to prevent somebody from getting in a pickup truck and going around and being a hauling service and loading up their pickup truck, showing that I'm Joe Smith and I live on Brown Street. And if we don't have some policy, it means they can go in with 24 or 30 or 50 screens and televisions in the back of their truck. By putting a limit of per day, it now makes it inconvenient for them. It's convenient for the homeowner; it's inconvenient for someone that's trying to do it commercially.

Alderman Lopez stated okay. Say I go in there in a truck with 20, then they don't take me? I've got to go someplace else? Is that what we're saying, Kevin?

Mr. Sheppard responded yes.

Alderman Lopez stated if I come in there with more than two that day – on a truck and I have ten – you don't take them? I've got to go someplace else?

Mr. Sheppard responded that's the way the policy was set.

Alderman O'Neil stated the intent is...right now we said unlimited, free. I'm saying up to two is free.

Alderman Lopez stated then you're going to charge the rest? Okay. Maybe that's what I was missing. You're going to charge the rest, after two.

Mr. Sheppard stated correct.

Alderman Lopez stated okay and that's at seven and a half cents a pound?

Alderman O'Neil stated as I have been charged in the past.

Alderman Lopez stated okay, seven and a half cents a pound. That's the part I was missing. I'll second that motion.

Alderman Osborne stated again, if we're going to give them two for free and then charge them for the rest, maybe we might find them back out in the gutters again, or whatever. They won't want to drop them off. So, again we're coming up with the same type of situation that we get with the bulky waste. We're going to have to make up our minds one way or the other, are we going to take this for free. How much is the City getting out of this? How much does the City get for all this stuff?

Mr. Sheppard asked in revenues? In CRT revenues per year?

Alderman Osborne said yes.

Mr. Sheppard stated roughly \$10,000 at the drop off.

Alderman O'Neil added currently.

Alderman Osborne stated currently, but after this opens up, what are you talking about then?

Mr. Sheppard stated we'll probably lose that \$10,000 in revenues where we won't be charging for the CRT's. And I don't think we'll see box loads of the CRT's coming in, or if we do it will be minor revenues for the City.

Chairman Roy stated I think one final comment, Alderman Forest, since you haven't spoken and then I'm going to call for a vote.

Alderman Forest stated Kevin, just before the landfill closed, you did not accept tires at all. Correct?

Mr. Sheppard stated correct.

Alderman Forest stated and then you started charging two bucks a tire.

Mr. Sheppard stated we accept tires from residents at no charge.

Alderman Forest stated so there's a lot of tires that come into the landfill. Granted there are some on the sides of the roads and all that, but when you were not taking them at all was when we had a problem with some tires. And it's not as bad now

as it was, so even if we charge for this, above two, you may have a few on the side of the road, but the majority of them are going to end up at the drop off.

Mr. Sheppard stated I don't think any policy is going to solve all problems.

On motion of Alderman O'Neil, duly seconded by Alderman Lopez, it was voted to approve the Highway Department's policy related to CRT drop off, along with a Committee amendment limiting daily drop offs of CRT's to two per day.

Alderman Osborne was opposed the motion.

Chairman Roy stated the Bulky Pick-up Program. Kevin, you've made some adjustments. If you'd like to bring the Committee up to date.

Mr. Sheppard stated sure. After the last Committee meeting we went back and we had talked to the Assessors Office in the past. The Assessors Office actually considers anything above a two-unit building commercial. So we said, based on that, let's take another look. We pushed our free collections from two up to four per year, and the number of articles collected from five up to ten per collection. We've also done...Joanne actually spent quite a lot of time going through what we've collected on the bulky truck for roughly the past eight months. What we found there is...we're not going to be really shutting too many people off. It may have been three or four addresses in the past eight months that have called more than four times, and those are addresses of larger multi-family buildings. So by setting this policy, we're not going to be shutting many people out, I believe, on the Bulky Program. What we're doing is creating a starting point so that we have a definition of what is collected and how much will be collected in the Bulky Program.

Chairman Roy stated thank you for your work on that. I greatly appreciate it, as I do believe this program is much like a speed limit. It's set for keeping the honest people honest and people that are going to obey it focused on what is good for the community. And those who are going to abuse it, there's an upper limit so that they can't go over it without a penalty. With that I'll open to questions from the Committee.

Alderman Osborne stated I have a couple of things here. I guess I don't want to reiterate what I said in the last meeting, all of that, but the main thing here is we've been doing this for years. I was an Alderman 25 years ago and it ran the same way. We have one cherry picker, one truck. We've had one driver all this time. The fellow's been there over 35 years. He's been driving that truck for over 15 years. He does an excellent job out there. I have no problem with the way it's

going right now. And for the \$275,000...is that right? Is that what it's costing us every year?

Mr. Sheppard responded roughly.

Alderman Osborne and that's been costing us now for the last four or five years at least, right?

Mr. Sheppard stated right.

Alderman Osborne asked so why are we trying to change the way this is going now for the sake of only four or six addresses out there that are going against the ordinance or making a mess, or whatever it might be? Why do we have to put everybody...a lot of people out there don't understand sometimes when you're putting something like this across to them that, you know I can only have four pick-ups. They forget this over a period of time. In my ward I have a lot, a lot of litter, and I'm looking for my ward as well as I guess the City. I think the way it stands now, where it has only cost us this much money over the years for quite a while. We only have one truck, never had to increase it. Doing a good job. I don't know why we don't just leave the thing alone and leave it the way it is. This is the motion that I'd like to make, but I know I won't get a second on it, but that's okay. This is the way I feel.

Alderman O'Neil stated I spoke today with the Deputy Director and we had a good discussion about this, and I was hesitant as originally proposed. I'm less hesitant now. Kevin and I did speak that, you know, if it isn't working and isn't going in the right direction, then we'll revise it. So I'm willing to vote for it with the revisions from Public Works.

Alderman Lopez stated I just want to clarify something. The twenty dollars per item after four pick-ups. Is there any leeway? I mean, would charge twenty dollars for a bicycle or a chair?

Mr. Sheppard stated well I guess I go back to...this policy really is a beginning point. It's something to define that we can work off in the future. We don't see this really affecting many property owners as the information Joanne went through over eight months shows. It might have been three or four. Where you're going to see it hitting is probably the larger, multi-family buildings. And I think the twenty dollars is just to motivate them to bring this material to the drop off themselves versus call us. If we start charging five dollars for a chair, which we had originally proposed, they may end up saying, it's cheaper for us to call the City. We'd rather see the commercial sector, or the larger, multi-families be

bringing this material to the drop off themselves. And that's why we came up with twenty dollars per item.

Alderman Lopez stated it would just be as a discretion on the policy part. You'll monitor it and see what happens.

Alderman Osborne stated, Mr. Sheppard, you mentioned twenty dollars per item or if they don't they can bring it up. How much are they going to be charged if they bring it to the drop off?

Mr. Sheppard responded seven and a half cents a pound.

Alderman Osborne asked and how many people do you think, especially people moving out of homes or whatever, I mean apartments. We call them night riders. They're out and the next morning all the furniture is out on the sidewalk. Those people are surely not going to bring it up to the drop off, that's for sure. And to have them landlords taking all that stuff up there and then charging him, when they have a multi-family of fifteen or twenty units that are paying very, very heavy taxes, I think they're paying their way in some case, in a few cases. So it's not fair again, but I mean, if it's over-abused, we're only talking four to six people. If we can send them out letters, I think they'd abide by it. But we're not trying that; we're just kind of...see, in other people's minds they're getting penalized and these other people as well. It's just...I just don't go for it. Your going to find more out on the streets sometimes than what it's worth. We're not having any problem now, really, outside of four to six people. I could see if everybody's was throwing out the window in the whole ward, but it's not happening. Thank you.

Alderman O'Neil stated Kevin, walk me through currently. Today, if I wanted to put a refrigerator out. What's the process?

Mr. Sheppard stated a refrigerator's probably not a good example because there is a fee for that. For white goods there is a fee because they have CSC's and we've got to withdraw that from the appliance.

Alderman O'Neil stated walk me through the process.

Mr. Sheppard stated if you have a refrigerator, for example, you need to come and purchase a sticker from the Highway Department, and we schedule the pick-up of that. If you have a couch, you call the drop-off facility and they schedule the pick up of it. So, white goods, they need to come purchase a sticker; any bulky item that there is no fee, they just call to schedule that collection.

Alderman O'Neil stated whether it's a refrigerator, washer, dryer...we pick up significant tonnage a year of those. Correct? And there isn't an issue with people calling, paying the fee, getting the sticker. I think you require on refrigerators, the doors need to be removed, or maybe they're allowed to be chained or something, but at least removed.

Mr. Sheppard stated we sell those stickers right at the Highway Department and I don't remember, really, any issues selling them...twenty-five dollars a sticker to get rid of a refrigerator or a stove.

Alderman O'Neil stated my other option is, if I don't want to do that, I put it in the back of my pickup truck and I take it up to the transfer station and I pay seven...is it the same fee?

Mr. Sheppard stated actually you pay a ten dollar fee. It's less because you're bringing it up there.

Alderman Osborne stated Mr. O'Neil lived in my ward, in that area, for a number of years and you're going to find out that I know you're going to have to be charged for the refrigerator and the stove – things of that sort – that have stickers, but how many have we taken without those stickers? I know myself that a lot of them don't even bother. So we end up picking that up for free, true?

Mr. Sheppard stated there's a lot of things that we do, I don't want to say that we shouldn't do, to keep the City clean. Our bulky truck will go through an alley and clean up some alleys. It's difficult, sometimes, to pinpoint who that belongs to. Our goal is to keep the alleys and the streets clean. And under either policy, under this bulky policy, it's going to continue to be that way. I don't see any change in the cleanliness and the work that we do in the alleys.

Alderman Osborne stated I just feel the more fees we charge, the more litter we're going to have...in the inner city. Thank you.

Alderman Lopez stated this is just a policy, a first step anyway, to clean up the City, so I move the question.

Chairman Roy stated thank you, Alderman Osborne. I will look for a vote. I do have one comment and this directly goes towards enforcement and litter. The current cost of this program, by the numbers put together by the Highway Department, is \$291,000. If we were to go ahead and recoup some of those fees that are offset by every taxpayer, we could put a lot more money into solid waste compliance that would help with the alley and the litter problem, and the bulky waste problems, and the things that are not claimed by owners. So, personally,

I'm going to ask Joanne, what was the amount of affected people when the number was two pick ups per year? Did you do that research on the two pick-ups or just on the four pick-ups per year?

Ms. McLaughlin responded it probably would have been about...I'm sorry, I don't have that number.

Chairman Roy stated personally I look at this and the watered down version of four is at least a place to start. But of all the landlords that have called and complained about this bulky pick-up, when I ask them how many times they use the service, it's far less than what we're asking for. So, I would look that we monitor this, monitor the cost, and try to make it as fair as possible. On that note, I'll call for a vote on the motion of accepting the policy of four.

On motion of Alderman O'Neil, duly seconded by Alderman Forest, it was voted to approve the Bulky Pick-up program as amended by the Highway Department.

Alderman Osborne opposed the motion.

There being no other business to come before the Committee, on motion of Alderman Lopez, duly seconded by Alderman Forest, it was voted to adjourn.

A True Record. Attest.

Clerk of Committee